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# THE REVIEW OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY OF JAPAN

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## CONTENTS

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>Tetuo Mizukami</b> : Physico-Chemical Studies on Acetaldehyde Polymerization at High Pressure and Low Temperature (I) Liquid-Solid Transition and Polymerization of Acetaldehyde ..... | 51  |
| <b>Tetuo Mizukami</b> : Physico-Chemical Studies on Acetaldehyde Polymerization at High Pressure and Low Temperature (II) The Kinetics of the Polymerization of Acetaldehyde .....        | 60  |
| <b>Tetuo Mizukami</b> : The Melting Polymerization of Acetaldehyde.....   | 73  |
| <b>Kiyoshi Kitamura</b> : Studies on the Telomerization of Ethylene with Carbon Tetrachloride (I) Kinetics of the Telomerization Initiated by Azo-bis-isobutyronitrile .....              | 83  |
| <b>Kiyoshi Kitamura</b> : Studies on the Telomerization of Ethylene with Carbon Tetrachloride (II) Properties of Ethylene and Tetrachloro-Alkanes Mixtures .....                          | 92  |
| <b>Jiro Osugi, Kumao Hamanoue and Satoshi Hirayama</b> : Studies on the Kinetics of the Thermal Polymerization of Butadiene under High Pressure.....                                      | 103 |
| <b>S. D. Hamann</b> : Diminished Solubility of Dodecylamine Hydrochloride in Water at High Pressures .....  | 109 |

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Asahi's history dates as far back as 1923 when the late Mr. Jun Noguchi, who was the first president of the company, erected a synthetic ammonia plant in Nobeoka, present site of the company's major plants. This is a memorable plant in that the first commercial production of synthetic ammonia in the world by the Casale process was successfully started at this plant.

Thereafter Asahi's production activity continued to expand, with the exception of the war years, into great many fields. Using ample electric power from its own power plants and standing on the firmly established basis that primary raw materials are available within the company, Asahi has been producing chemical fibers, synthetic resin, explosives, chemical fertilizers, chemical seasoning, industrial nitrocellulose and several scores of chemicals of ammonia, soda and chlorine derivatives.

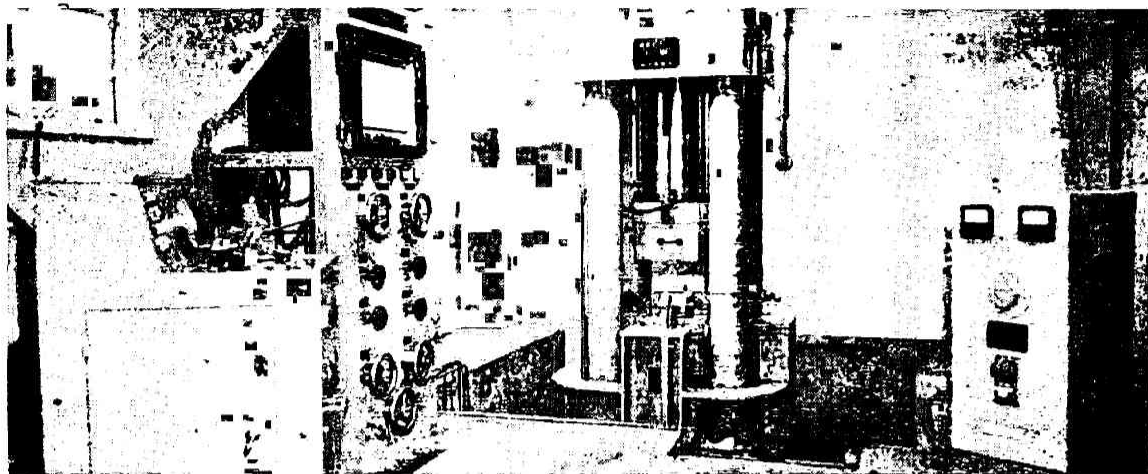
This fact points up to Asahi's special feature as a chemical company. Asahi ranks first in the production of viscose rayon in Japan and its cuprammonium rayon capacity is largest in the world. Using acrylonitrile monomer produced by Sohio process at its Kawasaki plant, Asahi produces polyacrylic fiber "Cashimilon" by its own process. Production acrylonitrile monomer and of polyacrylic fiber is also the largest in Japan. Asahi's chemical seasoning (monosodium

glutamate) Asahi Aji, ranks second in output of similar chemical seasonings. Sun-Nitro, Asahi's unique chemical fertilizer, is building up for itself a spectacular sales. Asahi's industrial nitrocellulose and electrolytic soda production is the largest in Japan. Asahi is also at the top in production volume of all the explosives manufacturers in Japan. Recently Asahi launched into three new fields of operation, i.e. nylon 6, synthetic rubber polybutadiene "ASADENE" and new building material "Silikaltsuit".

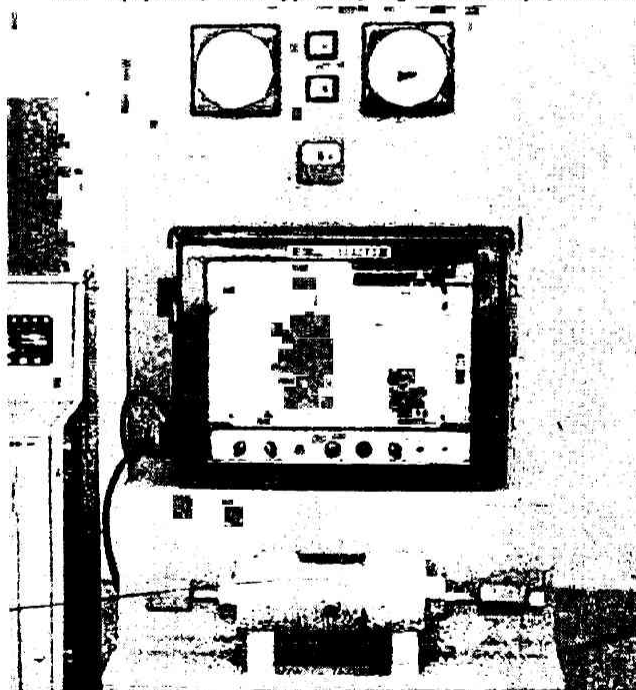
At present, Asahi's products are exported to 50 different countries. Export of the process is also making headway. Worthy of mention in this connection is the export of viscose rayon manufacturing techniques to the Baroda Rayon Corporation, India and Dawood Industries Limited, Pakistan, of polyacrylic fiber manufacturing techniques to ANIC S. p. A., Italy and of Acrylonitrile Monomer Manufacturing Technique to U. S. S. R. Through all these activities, the excellence of Asahi's techniques is highly evaluated.

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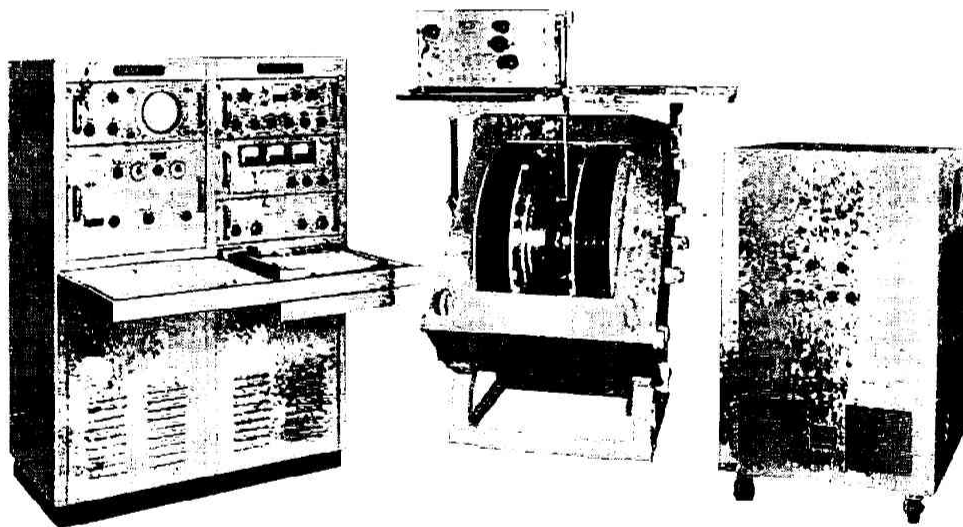
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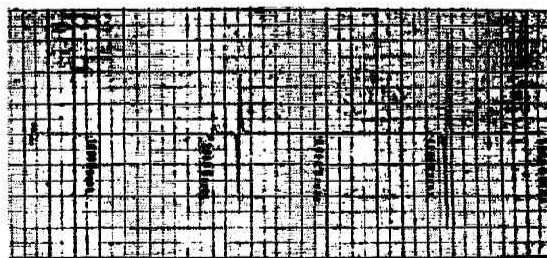
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## CONTENTS

### No. 1

|   |    |
|---|----|
| <b>Tsunesuke Doi</b> : Physico-Chemical Properties of Sulfur (II) Effects of Different Types of Reagent on Viscosities of Liquid Sulfur .....                   | 1  |
| <b>Tsunesuke Doi</b> : Physico-Chemical Properties of Sulfur (III) Dissolved State of Sulfur Polymers in Liquid Sulfur .....                                    | 11 |
| <b>Tsunesuke Doi</b> : Physico-Chemical Properties of Sulfur (IV) Critical Polymerization Temperatures and Polymerization Equilibrium Constants of Sulfur ..... | 18 |
| <b>Jiro Osugi and Yoichi Kitamura</b> : Optical Studies of Pressure Effects (I) The Measurement of the O-H Stretching Vibration Band of Ethanol .....           | 25 |
| <b>Jiro Osugi, Masanori Sato and Naoyuki Ifuku</b> : Micelle Formation of Cationic Detergent Solution at High Pressures .....                                   | 32 |
| <b>Jiro Osugi, Hironobu Kubota and Katsukuni Ueba</b> : Studies on Explosion Limits of Butadiene-Air Mixture .....  | 38 |
| <b>Kiyoshi Kitamura</b> : Inactivation of Enzymes under High Pressure (I) Inactivation of Salivary $\alpha$ -Amylase under High Pressure .....                  | 44 |

### No. 2

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>Tetuo Mizukami</b> : Physico-Chemical Studies on Acetaldehyde Polymerization at High Pressure and Low Temperature (I) Liquid-Solid Transition and Polymerization of Acetaldehyde ..... | 51  |
| <b>Tetuo Mizukami</b> : Physico-Chemical Studies on Acetaldehyde Polymerization at High Pressure and Low Temperature (II) The Kinetics of the Polymerization of Acetaldehyde .....        | 60  |
| <b>Tetuo Mizukami</b> : The Melting Polymerization of Acetaldehyde .....  | 73  |
| <b>Kiyoshi Kitamura</b> : Studies on the Telomerization of Ethylene with Carbon Tetrachloride (I) Kinetics of the Telomerization Initiated by Azo-bis-isobutyronitrile .....              | 83  |
| <b>Kiyoshi Kitamura</b> : Studies on the Telomerization of Ethylene with Carbon Tetrachloride (II) Properties of Ethylene and Tetrachloro-Alkanes Mixtures .....                          | 92  |
| <b>Jiro Osugi, Kumao Hamanoue and Satoshi Hirayama</b> : Studies on the Kinetics of the Thermal Polymerization of Butadiene under High Pressure .....                                     | 103 |
| <b>S. D. Hamann</b> : Diminished Solubility of Dodecylamine Hydrochloride in Water at High Pressures .....  | 109 |

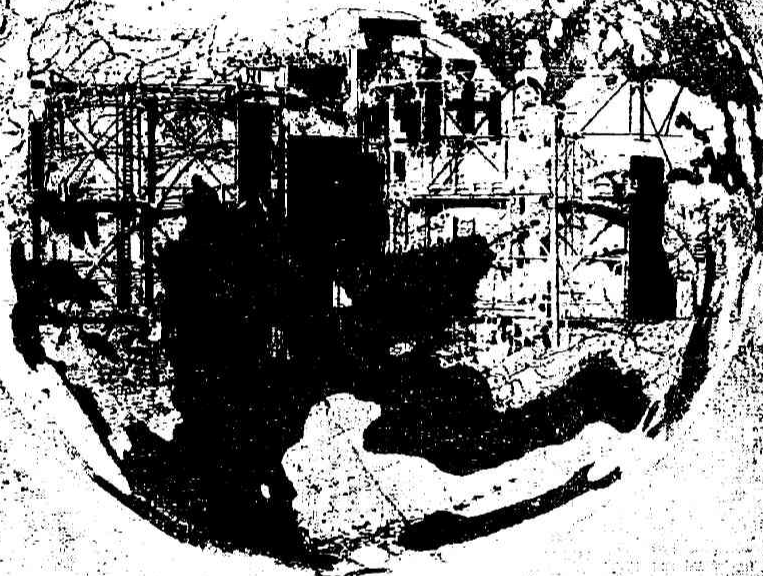
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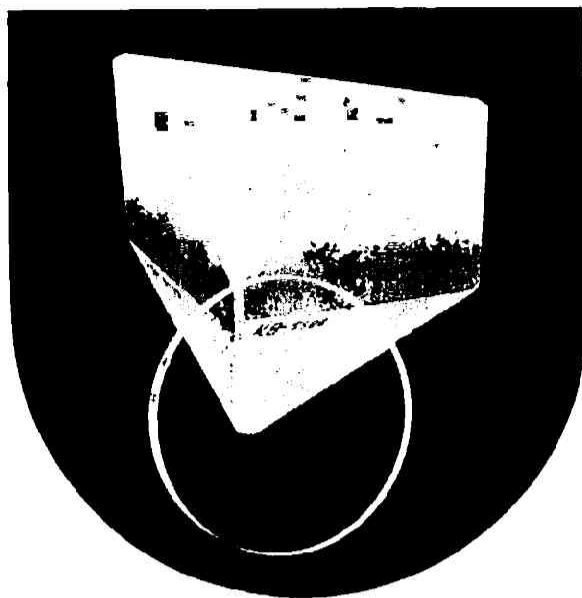
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| Specific gravity:<br>gr/cm <sup>3</sup> | 2.16  | 1.59  | 2.75  | 3.13  | 2.64  | 5.56                 | 7.2    | 7.19   | 4.53  |
| Melting point: °C                       | 801   | 776   | 730   | 680   | 843   | 455                  | 415    | 424    | 621   |
| Maximum diameter:<br>mm                 | 120   | 120   | 120   | 120   | 100   | 60                   | 60     | 60     | 60    |
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